

INFORMATION RESOURCES ACCESS PATTERN AT ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, KARAIKUDI, AND TAMILNADU, INDIA.

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ABSTRACT

This paper described that users visit the Alagappa University library for collecting information from different faculties. The researchers have attempted to find out the perceptions and outlook of the university library users with highly response to utilize the facility is available. The study shows that the quality of collection with respect to books, Journals and e-resources. Yahoo is most popular search engine among the user for browsing the net. Book lending service is the most prefer by the staff.

Keywords: Alagappa University, Information Resources, User Studies.

1. INTRODUCTION

Information science focuses on understanding problem from the perspective of the stakeholders involved and then applying information and other technologies as needed. In other words, it tackles systemic problems first rather than individual pieces of technology within that system. In this respect, information science can be seen as a response to technological determination, the belief that technology "develops by its own laws, that it realizes its own potential, limited only by the material resources available, and must therefore be regarded as an autonomous system controlling and ultimately permeating all other subsystems of society." Within information science, attention has been given in recent years to human computer interaction, group ware, the semantic web value sensitive design, interactive design processes and to the ways people generate, use and find information. Today this field is called the Field of Information, and there are a growing number of Schools and Colleges of Information. The uses of Information technologies or ITs in different facets of every day life are considered as a barometer of a country's progress. Dramatic improvements are taking place in the two major components of IT: Computers and Telecommunication and these both have affected the entire scenario

Dluman (2003) attempted that Impact of information technologies on the library is quit obvious as it has created new types of work, prompted redefinition of certain functions, influenced interpersonal relationships and transformed traditional organization structures into new institutional entities (Munshi,1998).

An attempts is made to assess the service quality, use of various search engines and impressions of the law libraries is presented. Some of the popular journals and databases used are listed (Khiser nikem, 2006). Papategious (2005) examined in the present situation, higher education is bound to opt for the unavoidable shift form the culture of print to a culture of digital technology.

This affects teaching, learning and research but also the whole of higher education . Baskaran (2013) analysed the various pattern use by faculty members are getting the guidance and experience for accessing the scholarly journals from library staff and senior faculty members. However found that lack of training for accessing is obstacles in proper and utilization in access of the electronic resources.

ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

Alagappa university central library has rich collection of 70,000 Volumes, subscribing huge number of national and international journals. Further good collection of thesis dissertation, technical reports & Proceedings of conferences etc. are also available in the central library. The ample e-journals access through UGC-Infonet consortia for development in research activities by the students and faculties. The researcher has found various methods of services are functioning in the university library.

OBJECTIVES

Following are the important objectives of the study.

1. To find the profile of the Alagappa university library users
2. To observe the users access pattern and their attributes in the library
3. To determine the types of some information sources and services require among the users.

METHODOLOGY

A structured questionnaire was distributed to the 125 respondents of users in Alagappa University Library and received 120 questionnaires from different faculty of university. All the valued responses were tabulated analyzed and interpreted in the following paragraph.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS

Analysis of the survey carried out by the investigators on the research topic “Information Resources access pattern at Alagappa University Library, Karaikudi, Tamilnadu, India.” is analyzed by several tabulation presented here.

Table:1 Status of Respondents

S.No	Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Students	75	62.51
2	Faculty Members	35	29.16
3	Others	10	8.33
	Total	120	100

The status of Alagappa University users have surveyed in this study is shown in Table 1 it may be observed from the table that majority of the respondents are students representing 62.51.Faculty members from the second largest number of respondents accounting to 29.16 percent. The remaining 8.33 percent are faculty members is shown table 1.

Age wise respondents of Alagappa University from 20 years to 36 years and above. This information is detailed in Table 2. It may be observed from the table that a large number of respondents fall in the range of 36 and above years representing 10 percent. This is but natural because most of the respondents are from 21-25. The highest group belongs to 26-30 years age group representing 26.66 percent. About 20.85 percent of them are in the below 20 category.

Table 2: Age Wise Respondents

S.NO	Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Below 20	25	20.85
2	21-25	32	26.66
3	26-30	31	25.83
4	31-35	20	16.66
5	36 and above	12	10.00
	Total	120	100

The Sex wise breakup of respondent users from Alagappa University to shown in Table 3. It may be seen from the table that nearly 72.5 percent of the respondents are male. The remaining 27.5 percent of them are female.

Table-3: Gender wise dispersion

S.No	Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Male	87	72.50
2	Female	33	27.50
	Total	120	100

It is observed from table 4 indicates that the respondents of this study hail from different faculties of Alagappa University. Majority of them Science having 41.16 percent. About 33.33 percent of them from Education. Nearly 12 percent of them have Arts background. About 11 percent of them belong to Management is observed in figure-2.

Table 4: Faculty of Respondents

S.No	Faculty	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Arts	14	11.66
2	Science	53	41.16
3	Education	40	33.33
4	Management	13	10.83
5		120	100

Fig-2 Faculty of the respondents

The frequency of users visit the library is shown in Table 5 It is clear from the table that majority of the respondent's visits the library daily representing 29.16 percent goes to their respective Agriculture libraries once a week. A very small segment of the representing 15 percent visits the library once a fortnight

Table: 5 Frequency of Library visit

S.No	Frequency	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	35	29.16
2	Once a week	29	24.16
3	Fortnight	21	17.50
4	Month	17	14.16
5	Rarely	18	15.00
	Total	120	100

The users visit the Alagappa University library for various purposes for seminars, lectures to use database and to refer journals and so on. It may be seen from Table 6 that library users are most frequently visit their respective libraries for preparing for seminars assignments and to refer journal articles 2.73 mean. The users also frequently visit their libraries to prepare for moot court (Mean 2.68). To prepare for lectures and to browse database mean as a 2.34 .

Table 6: Purpose of visit

S.No	Purpose of visit	No.of Respondents (Mean Score)					Total Mean
		1	2	3	4	5	
01	To Prepare for lectures	0.61	0.54	0.47	0.39	0.42	2.43
02	To prepare Projects/Seminars/assignments	0.52	0.49	0.51	0.42	0.44	2.38
03	To prepare for moot court	0.43	0.57	0.71	0.54	0.43	2.68
04	To refer journal articles	0.61	0.48	0.84	0.43	0.37	2.73
05	To browse database	0.63	0.39	0.63	0.37	0.32	2.34

Code 5- Most Frequently 4-Frequently 3-Occasionally 2-Rarely 1-Never

The Alagappa University library often provide a various services like Book lending service, reference service and Inter library loan and so on. It is shown by Table 7, that the book lending and reference service mean score 2.69 and 2.56. Inter library loan service appear mean score 1.97.

Table 7: Services Quality

S.No	Types of library services	No. of Respondents (Mean Score)					Total Mean
		1	2	3	4	5	
1	Book lending Service	0.42	0.28	0.34	1.36	0.29	2.69
2	Reference Service	0.39	0.41	0.29	1.04	0.43	2.56
3	Inter library loan service	0.52	0.61	0.24	0.31	0.29	1.97

5- Most frequently 4-Frequently 3-Occasionally 2- Rarely 1-Never

The frequency of use of various search engines by the Alagappa University library users is provided in Table 8. The respondents while browsing the net frequently use yahoo, Google, Northern light, Alta vista and Lycos search engines with 3.24, 3.22, 3.13, 3.04 and 2.81 mean score respectively. Hot bot, Ask jeevs and sify are comparably less 2.41,2.34 and 2.31 respectively.

Table:8 Use of Search Engines

S.No	Search Engines	No. of Respondents(Mean Score)					Total Mean
		1	2	3	4	5	
1	Google	1.21	0.51	0.61	0.51	0.38	3.22
2	Yahoo	0.51	1.42	0.38	0.38	0.55	3.24
3	Alta vista	0.42	1.21	0.51	0.21	0.69	3.04
4	Hotbot	0.66	0.49	0.43	0.42	0.41	2.41
5	Lycos	0.72	0.42	0.70	0.68	0.29	2.81
6	Northern light	0.49	0.61	1.21	0.51	0.31	3.13
7	Ask Jeeves	0.65	0.81	0.12	0.47	0.27	2.32
8	Sify	0.41	0.67	0.43	0.62	0.21	2.34

Note 5- Most Frequently 4-Frequently 3-occasionally 2- Rarely 1-Never

CONCLUSION

This study discussed user much more interest on using internet for accessing scientific information in which global level publications. This study reveals that faculty of science respondents secured maximum level due to keen search and obtained information by scientific journals and electronic publications. The maximum number of users are visited the library for preparing seminars, conferences and assignments. The Internet users are preferring yahoo search engine and Google is next position in this study. Latest enhancing Information and Communications technology for the Library services in 21st century the readers can be use the resources at anywhere. Researchers must access more electronic journals and databases provide by UGC- Infonet. Teaching faculty and research schools can be accessed electronic resources through campus wide network facility provide in the University.

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